

MEETING OF THE GENERAL FACULTY
Wednesday November 20, 2019 CNS C101 11:00 am

Summary of action taken:

- CC Motion 1: DTE major revision, **passed**
- CC Motion 2: reorganizing general education, **passed**
- CC Motion 3: join the Illinois Articulation Initiative, **passed**
- CC Motion 4: allow double-counting, was **sent back to committee**
- PAT Motion 1: evaluation of reappointment of endowed chairs moved from PAT to Committee for endowed professorships and chairs, **passed**
- PAT Motion 2: approve attendance of Prof. M. Perera as an observer to the spring meetings, **amended then passed**
- PAT Motion 3: calendar and materials for evaluation of instructional staff, **passed**

1. Call to Order - President Nugent called the meeting to order at 11:01 am

2. Approval of the Minutes of the October 16, 2019 meeting

Two edits, one on the CUPP report and the other on the HCAC report. Both edits **passed**. Edited minutes **approved**.

3. Curriculum Council Consent Agenda

A typo was noted on the consent agenda. CC# 032_c, French 303 is listed as an AR category and with a G flag, but it should be Lit category and no flag.

With that typo noted, the consent agenda then **passed**.

4. Committee Reports

a. CUPP (written report), Professor M. Robey
No questions.

b. Curriculum Council (written report), Professor A. Kerr
No questions on the written report.

i. Addendum, Motion 1: DTE Major revision

The major is going from 10 courses to 12. The core is still 8 courses, but concentrations are now 4 courses. There are course changes within the core and concentrations, e.g. addition of computer science. See CC report addendum for full details.

Motion **passed**.

ii. Addendum, Motions 2, 3, and 4: Proposal for Reorganizing the General Education and Joining the Illinois Articulation Initiative

Summary (see addendum for details): Motion 2 reorganizes the current general education program into the Shared Curriculum. The Shared Curriculum contains all the current requirements, broken out into sections called general education, encountering diversity, and physical education. In addition, the writing in the major requirement will be shifted to each major individually.

Motion 3 then proposes IWU join the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) as a receiving-only institution.

Motion 4 proposes to eliminate the distinction between categories and flags, then allows a course to carry up to two categories, plus a W designation for writing.

Rationale for Motions 2 and 3 have been presented at previous meetings. The purpose of Motion 4 is to give flexibility to current students, and to allow transfer students to complete all the requirements in a timely fashion.

There was general discussion about the issue of transfer students with excessive D's on previous coursework. The IAI allows any number of D's in general education. So if we join, a student with many D's would check the box that they completed general education, but would still have to meet all the other requirements for admittance and graduation. There is no current admissions policy surrounding this issue, because it is unlikely a student would have many D's and still be admitted. Members expressed interest in a written threshold, perhaps involving GPA or a number of D's allowed. As an example, ISU has a GPA requirement for transfer students.

Discussion of motion 2, reorganization:

On the subject of mapping content, a committee member noted students have more choices under IAI than our current general education program. Another noted that requirements map closely at the division level, but within divisions our current program enforces more breadth.

Q: would students still need to take both life and physical sciences, both issues and lab? A: yes, specific requirements remain unchanged under motion 1, simply reorganized.

Q: can the nursing program still require three years of course work under this reorganization? A: yes, in particular transfer students would have general education accepted, then would need to complete the diversity requirement, the physical education requirement, and their major requirements.

Motion 2 passes.

Discussion of motion 3, join the IAI:

No further discussion. **Motion 3 passes.**

Discussion of Motion 4, eliminate flag, category distinction and allow double-counting:

Note this motion applies to all students, not just transfer students. However, it may enable us to become more transfer-friendly.

Q: what about W course by end of sophomore year? A: the language "must" is in the current catalog, so that isn't a change (even if it is not enforced).

Q: what happens if motion 4 fails? A: nothing changes from individual courses. So far we have only separated current gen ed into different bins, all the courses stay the same.

Faculty members expressed concerns about quality. In our current system there is no feedback mechanism to ensure a course continues meeting the category goals, and this might be worsened by double-counting. A semester may not be enough time to adequately cover two categories. We may end up in an equilibrium where general education courses proliferate. The writing program may become diluted if courses have two category designations and the writing flag. The chair of CC expressed a desire for the committee to address issues of quality.

A committee member commented on an analysis performed to see what the most extreme example of min-maxing would be, and discovered the answer is two fewer courses than current practice. This is explained by the following: Gateway cannot be double-counted, many science courses already double-count (e.g. life science and issues), and many courses already double-count with a category and a flag.

Faculty members speaking in support of the motion cited the increased flexibility, noted that CC and the Faculty meeting already serve as gatekeepers to ensure quality, and noted that limited course offerings also serve as a safeguard against exploitation.

Q: What about different double counting requirements for transfer and non-transfer students? A: Hard to implement, sets up perverse incentives for students.

Motion to return Motion 4 to committee. Procedural motion passed.

c. Promotion and Tenure Committee (written report), Professor E. Kelahan Gordon Horwitz will serve on PAT for the spring semester.

i. Motion 1: Reassignment of evaluation of endowed chairs for reappointment from PAT to the Committee for Endowed Professorships and Chairs (CEPC)

Under current policy, appointments made by CEPC while re-appointments made by PAT. PAT feels the CEPC would be in a better position to evaluate re-appointments. Furthermore, this motion charges the CEPC to revisit policies surrounding re-appointments (see addendum for details).

Motion passes.

ii. Motion 2: Approve attendance of Prof. M. Perera to Spring 2020 PAT meetings as an observer.

Rationale: with recent resignations, there is a dearth of members of PAT with experience of the recent work of the committee. Prof. M. Perera is on sabbatical this spring. She would not be a voting member, but would attend in order to provide contextual information, especially regarding work on policies surrounding instructional staff evaluation.

Q: would the other requirements still be in place, e.g. confidentiality. A: yes.

A member expressed concern about preserving the sabbatical of Prof.

Perera. **Proposed amendment:** the motion now reads “the faculty approve the attendance of Prof. M Perera at Spring 2020 meetings of the Promotion and Tenure Committee as an observer, unless and until a faculty member is elected as a 3 semester replacement starting in Spring 2020.”

Amendment passes, then the motion passes.

iii. Motion 3: Approve Handbook revisions to establish evaluation materials and a submission calendar for Instructional Staff

See addendum for details.

A member asked about how the calendar applies to existing instructional staff. The Provost noted those members had calendars set in the letters sent out at the beginning of the year.

Motion passes.

d. Faculty Development Committee (oral report), Professor W. Jaeckle

Everyone who submitted should have received a letter from the committee. Now spending time on sabbatical proposals.

e. Nominating Committee (written report), Professor A. Ponce

No questions.

f. Assessment Committee (oral report), Professor J. Peters

Hunting down last few assessment reports. Coordinating general education assessment for three categories.

g. Undergraduate Research Advisory Committee (written report), Professor C. Nadeau

Had a first meeting with students about post-baccalaureate opportunities.

h. Strategic Planning Update (written report), Professor E. Furlong

Prof. Furlong is stepping down as co-chair due to a spring sabbatical. The SPCC voted to replace Prof. Furlong with Pro. Theune.

A faculty member expressed support for the proposed addition of information literacy to Gateway.

5. Old Business - none.

6. New Business - none.

7. Administrative Reports

President Nugent

Recently there was a two day workshop with faculty, staff, consultants (Gray Associates) looking at national data regarding enrollment trends and outcomes associated with particular majors. The task force will be working on how best to evaluate the data presented. The Associate Dean said there will be upcoming meetings with chairs of CUPP and CC, and further meetings with Gray Associates.

Her recent appointment as President has necessitated a shift in thinking and a shift in duties. The President will spend more time going forward with students, and more time fundraising. Regarding the latter, there is an upcoming visit to State Farm Insurance.

Provost Brodl

The Provost reported that the US Department of Justice has instituted new rules on college admissions under the heading of anti-trust law. Previously institutions coordinated on various aspects of admissions policy, but that is now ended. Colleges can now offer incentives for early deposits, can recruit students who have already deposited elsewhere, no longer bound to a May 1 deadline for decisions. Our goal is to create modes of "stickiness" to encourage students to stay with IWU after depositing.

One such proposal is to move registration forward into the summer. Students would register June 12, June 19, June 22, July 20, or otherwise during Turning Titan. The summer dates would include Academics 101, proficiency exams, and advice with course selection. Reflective advising would remain during semesters, or during Turning Titan. We want the day to be as positive and as attractive as possible.

The Provost announced stipends will no longer be provided for first-year advising. Some of the money saved will be redeployed to summer course selection, rest towards budget gap.

Q: anything planned during the summer sessions for parents? A: yes, in process.

Q: what about out of state students? A: opportunity to be advised virtually.

A member expressed concern this would build a narrative that IWU is only for local students. The VP for enrollment and marketing mentioned that we currently have a challenge with students who can't afford an initial visit. She is aware of many students

who express concerns that their peers going to other institutions have already registered halfway through the summer.

Q: what about programs that have a very rigid schedule for incoming first-year students. A: We will need to meet with such programs to ensure no harm is done.

Search for Associate Provost has started. Three candidates: Kevin Sullivan, Bill Hudson, Becky Roesner. Look for open forums to attend. Link through qualtrics to provide feedback. Announcement no later than Dec 10.

8. Announcements

Reception for outgoing Associate Provost Duke on Friday, Dec 6, 4 - 6 pm in Joslin Atrium.

Center for human rights and social justice has an upcoming workshop which will attract students from around the country. Two-day, intense interactions between students and faculty. Theme is fact and fiction as it relates to human rights. Current students with existing projects are encouraged to submit an application to Prof. Epstein in order to participate.

9. Adjournment at 12:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Shallue
Faculty Secretary